

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:

coupling a mobile device associated with a first resource to a first network environment;

- 5 reading first data associated with the first network environment;

determining whether the first data satisfies a first access requirement stored locally at the mobile device; and

- 10 allowing access to the first resource if the first data satisfies the first access requirement.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

obtaining second data associated with a particular user of the first network;

- 15 reading a second access requirement stored locally at the mobile device; and

determining if the second data satisfies the second access requirement before allowing access to the first resource.

20

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

obtaining second data associated with a particular user of the first network after allowing access to the first resource;

reading a second access requirement stored locally
at the mobile device and associated with a second resource
after allowing access to the first resource;

determining if the second data satisfies the second
5 access requirement; and

allowing access to the second resource if the second
data satisfies the second access requirement.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

10 reading second data associated with a second network
environment;

determining whether the second data satisfies a
second access requirement stored locally at the mobile device;
and

15 allowing access to a second resource associated with
the mobile device if the second data satisfies the second
access requirement.

5. A method of establishing and using sharing criteria
20 to control access to a resource comprising:

reading a first network identifier;

receiving an indication that the resource is to be
associated with the first network identifier; and

storing the first network identifier in a first association with a resource identifier that identifies the resource so that access to the resource is contingent upon receipt of the first network identifier.

5

6. The method of claim 5 in which the storing of the first network identifier in association with the resource identifier is accomplished by copying a portion of an association between the first network identifier and a second resource.

10

7. The method of claim 5 further comprising:

receiving a network identifier associated with an entity attempting to access the resource;

comparing the received network identifier with the stored network identifier; and

allowing access to the resource if the received network identifier matches the stored network identifier.

15

20

8. The method of claim 5 further comprising:

receiving a network identifier associated with an entity attempting to access the resource;

comparing the received network identifier with the stored network identifier; and

denying access to the resource if the received network identifier does not match the stored network identifier.

5 9. The method of claim 5 further comprising:
 receiving first data associated with a particular
 user;

 receiving an indication that the resource is to be
associated also with the first data; and

10 storing the first data in a second association with
the resource identifier so that the access to the resource is
contingent also upon receipt of the first data.

15 10. The method of claim 5 further comprising:

 removing the first association between the first
network identifier and the resource identifier so that access
to the resource is allowed without receipt of the first
network identifier.

20 11. The method of claim 5 further comprising:

 suspending temporarily the first association between
the first network identifier and the resource identifier so
that access to the resource is allowed without receipt of the
first network identifier.

12. The method of claim 5 further comprising:
displaying a second network identifier;
receiving an indication that the resource is to be
5 associated with the second network identifier; and
storing the second network identifier in a second
association with the resource identifier so that access to the
resource is contingent upon receipt of either the first
network identifier or the second network identifier.

13. A computer readable medium including instructions
for causing a processor to:
read a first network identifier;
receive an indication that the resource is to be
15 associated with the first network identifier; and
store in a memory the first network identifier in a
first association with a resource identifier that identifies
the resource so that access to the resource is contingent upon
receipt of the first network identifier.

14. The computer readable medium of claim 13 in which to
store in the memory the first network identifier in
association with the resource identifier a copy of a portion

of an association between the first network identifier and a second resource is used.

15. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the instructions cause the processor to:

receive first data;

compare the first data with the stored network identifier; and

allow access to the resource if the first data and the stored network identifier are substantially equal.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the instructions cause the processor to:

receive first data associated with a particular user;

receive an indication that the resource is to be associated also with the first data; and

store in the memory the first data in a second association with the resource identifier so that the access of the resource is contingent also upon receipt of the first data.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the instructions cause the processor to:

remove the first association between the first network identifier and the resource identifier so that access to the resource is allowed without receipt of the first network identifier.

5

18. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the instructions cause the processor to:

suspend temporarily the first association between the first network identifier and the resource identifier so that access to the resource is allowed without receipt of the first network identifier.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the processor is located in a mobile device consisting of one of the following: a notebook computer, a mobile telephone and a personal digital assistant.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the resource consists of one of the following: a folder, a directory, a file, an application, a printer, a disk drive, a ROM drive, memory and a scanner.